栄冠はきみに輝く

I'LL INTRO-
DUCE OUR
NEW COACH!
ITSC
HI, I'M
MATSUOKA
RIN
I'VE GOT A
GIRLY NAME,
BUT I'M A
GUY.
Nice to
meet ya.

Text: Press Conference for the Retirement of Swimmer Matsuoka Rin, Having Failed to obtain His Long-sought Olympic Gold...
HEY, HARU-CHAN.
I SAW HIM... ON TV, BEFORE.
He was crying really hard
IS... WHAT YOU'RE THINKING, RIGHT?
"...DOING TEACHING KIDS TO SWIM?"
"WHAT'S A GUY WHO LOST HIS DREAM AND BECAME A COACH 'CAUSE HE HAD NOTHING ELSE LEFT..."

'KAY...
ALL YOU REALLY NEED TO DO RIGHT NOW IS WATCH OVER THEM
YOU'LL NEED TO REST UP FOR A BIT.
AH!
WAIT! HARU-CHAN!
WHAT-EVER.
toss
Don't call me "chan"!
OOH.
HARUKA'S GONNA SWIM...
HE'S OUR ACE.

tap
HEY!
YOU!!
WHAM
THUMP
THUMP

WHAT'S YOUR TIME?
YOU'RE FAST..!
I DON'T CARE ABOUT TIMES
WELL...
I DO!

He's a weird guy.
1
PLACE
Or rather, he ONLY swims Freestyle.
Nanase Haruka, a sixth grader at Iwatobi E.
Specialty stroke: Freestyle.
OI!
NAAA-NAAAA-SEEEE!
NANASE!
STOP DICKING AROUND AND LET ME TIME YOU ALREADY!
YOU KNOW, YOU AREN'T SWIMMING SERIOUSLY

WHAT?
AH, UMM...
YOU... DAMN BRAT!
NO WAY.
IT'S TOO ANNOYING.
IF YOU ASKED SOMEONE WALKING DOWN A PATH...
WHY THEY WEREN'T WALKING SERIOUSLY,
THEY'D PROBABLY LOOK AT YOU FUNNY, RIGHT?
FOR HARU,
THAT'S HOW NATURAL A STATE SWIMMING IS
IN MY OPINION.

HARU-CHAN, READY TO HEAD HOME?
...I STILL DON'T GET IT.
I'M FINE
YOU GO ON AHEAD
Your ride's here
BOTH OF HARUKA'S PARENTS WORK
OR, WELL, HIS FATHER LIVES AWAY
AND HIS MOTHER DOESN'T GET HOME TIL LATE

...'KAY
THAT BEING THE CASE,
WATCH OVER HIM FOR ME!
SO,
HE'LL SWIM FOREVER IF YOU LET HIM
I LEAVE HIM BE, SO LONG AS I CAN KEEP AN EYE ON HIM.
It's not like I really care about understanding him.
I just...
...feel like I might be able to see some continuation for my dream with him.
And I just can't bring myself to ignore...

I'M NOT GONNA TOLER-ATE... ...ANY-MORE...
...that allure!
whip
...OF THIS SLOW-ASS SWIMMING!
tug
SNAP

Some-
one...
In the
water...
...There's someone here...

BAM

huff.
huff
SO YOU'RE FINALLY GETTING INTO IT.
ABOUT TIME.

JUST NOW...
I feel hot...

...THAT WAS...
YOU?
IT'S PITCH BLACK!
step
step
DRIVE THIS KID HOME
EH?!
RIN!

I'M STARVING FROM SWIMMING FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A WHILE
OH...
HEY,
NEAR THE ROTARY BY THE HARBOR?
nod
COME GET A BITE WITH ME. IT'LL BE MY TREAT.
YOU KNOW WHAT YOU WANT?
THE MACKEREL MISO SET.
...KINDA BORING, AREN'T Y/?

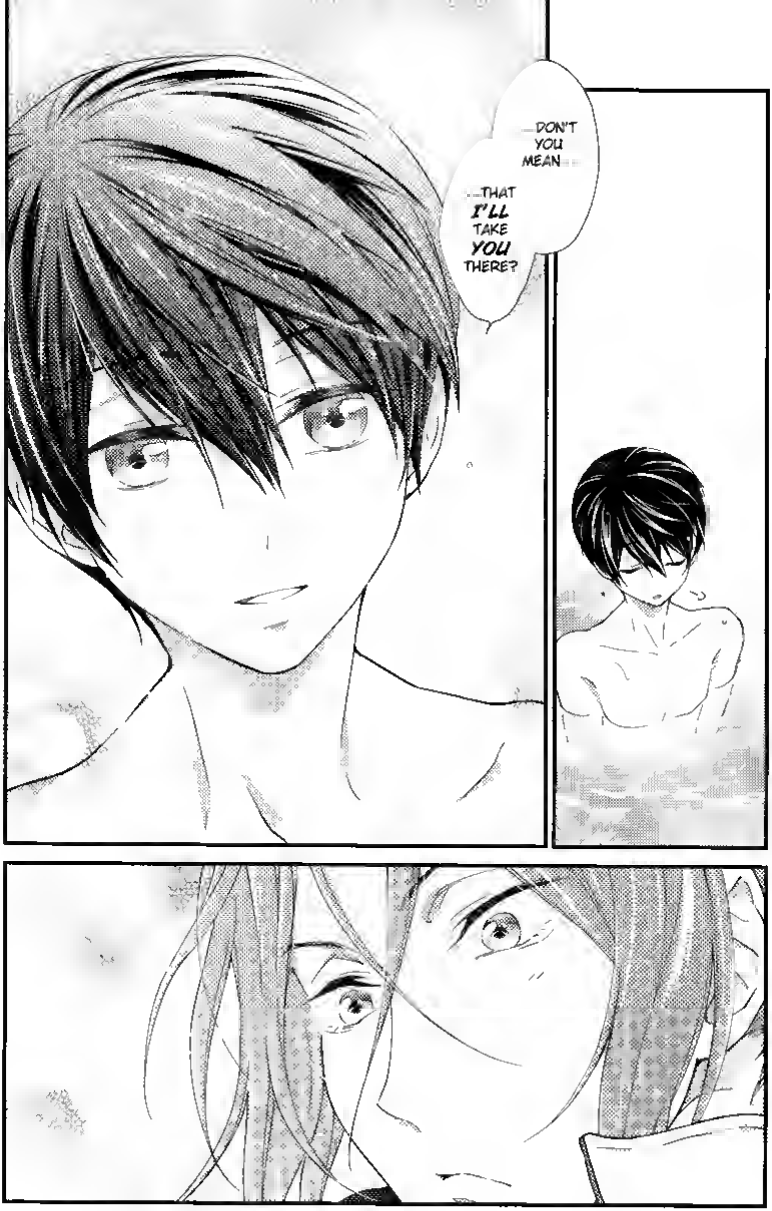
AND HE'S JUST A REGULAR KID...
GET HIM ON LAND...
C—
IT'S JUST RIGHT THERE
I CAN DRIVE YOU ALL THE WAY HOME.
HERE'S FINE
TIME ME
IF IT'S JUST ONCE, I'LL LET YOU DO IT
TOMORROW.

.....!
YESSS!!
IWATOBI SWIMMING CLUB
ITSC

THE DISTANCE IS 100.
THE STROKE IS FREE
Take your marks,
Ready...
GO!

HARU!

YOU DON'T HAVE TO CARE ABOUT RACES OR RECORDS.
BUT HOW WOULD YOU LIKE THE CHANCE TO SWIM...
...IN A POOL AT THE TOP OF THE WORLD?
I'LL TAKE YOU THERE!


—DON'T YOU MEAN—
—THAT I'LL TAKE YOU THERE?

The End.